

MINUTES.

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

WARRIOR RIVER
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

PINE BLUFF BAPTIST CHURCH,

BLOUNT COUNTY, ALA.

OCTOBER 7, 8, 10, 1881.


OFFICERS:

ELDER H. W. WATSON, Moderator.....Sidney, Marshall Co., Ala.
W. Y. ADAMS, Clerk.....Gum Spring, Blount Co., Ala.
J. D. HENDRICKS, Treasurer.....Wooten, Blount Co., Ala.

SELMA, ALA.:

JOHN L. WEST & CO., PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.

1818.



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BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

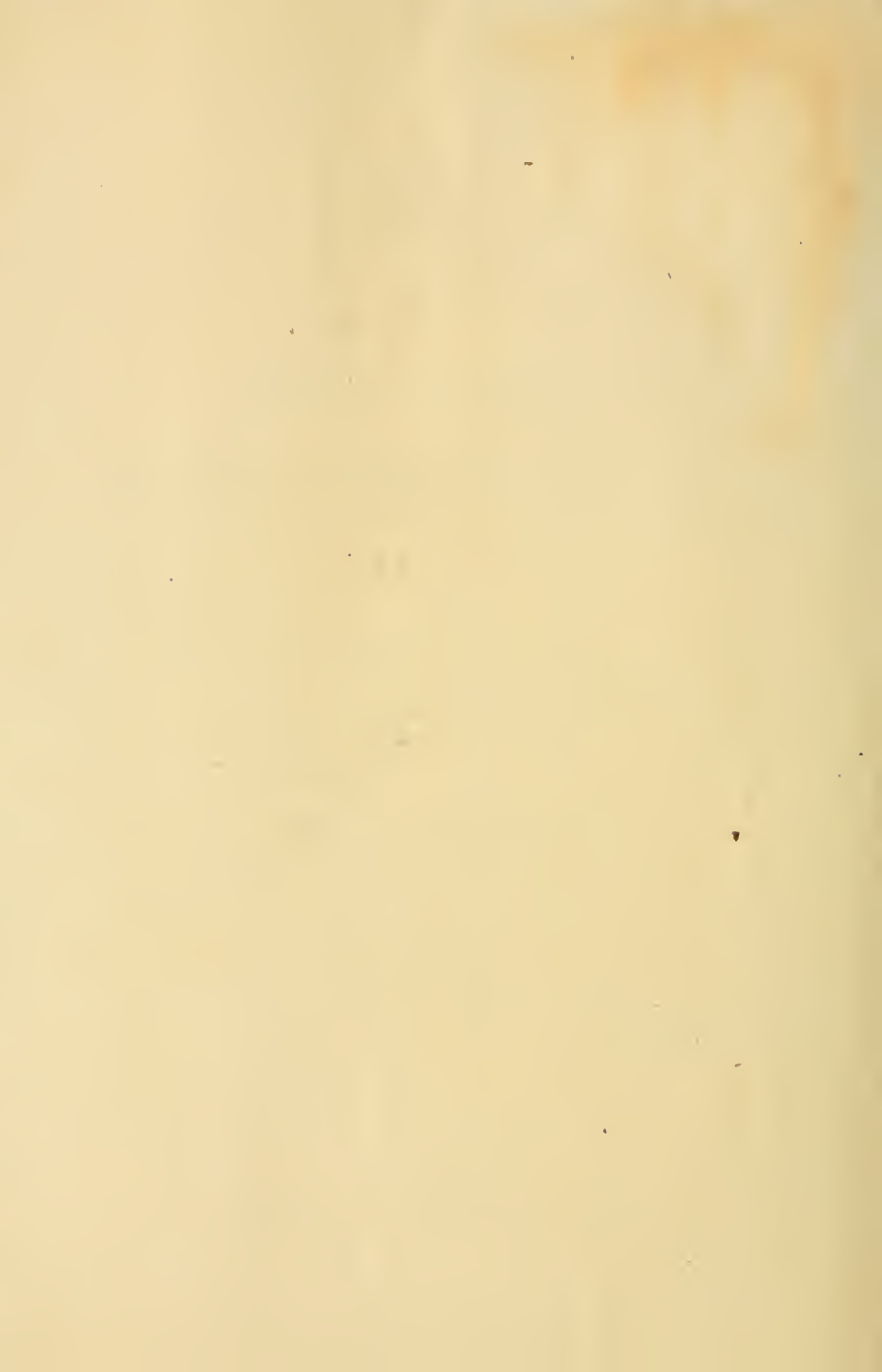
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MINUTES.

PINE BLUFF BAPTIST CHURCH, }
BLOUNT COUNTY, ALA., October 7, 1881. }

The Warrior River Baptist Association met with the church above named at 11 o'clock, a. m.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder James Fields, from Eph. 4:4.

The body was called to order by Elder James Fields, former Moderator. The letters from the churches were read and names of messengers enrolled.

Petitionary letters from Warrior Creek, Pine Grove and Hope-well churches were received, and right hand of fellowship extended to the messengers, in behalf of the Association, by the Moderator.

Elected Elder H. W. Watson, Moderator; W. Y. Adams, Clerk; and J. D. Hendricks, Treasurer.

Cahaba Valley Association asked to open a correspondence by her messenger, Elder J. A. Glenn. Request granted and Brother Glenn invited to a seat.

Welcomed correspondents, Elder J. W. Dorman, from Canaan Association, and Elders W. J. Lee and C. A. Burns, from Sulphur Springs Association.

Appointed Committees as follows:

On Devotion—J. D. Hendricks, A. F. Whitley, C. C. Hughes, and Deacons of Pine Bluff church.

On Missions—A. Dorman, P. R. Tennyson and James Smith.

On Temperance—J. H. Campbell, Moses Ray and J. S. Breas-seal.

On State of Religion—P. M. Musgrove, O. W. McDonald and J. L. Patterson

On Sabbath Schools—J. F. Musgrove, W. B. Brown and W. M. Cole.

On Finance—James Smith, David Hyatt and W. D. Walker.

On Documents—W. L. Ellison, J. T. Campbell and E. Bagwell.

On Education—J. C. Kimbrough, W. M. Chamblee and R. Holmes.

The Union meeting of the First District will meet with Mount Tabor church Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1882, and meeting of Second District will convene with Macedonia church Friday before the second Sabbath in August, 1882, and Elder A. Dorman will preach the Introductory Sermon. On motion, adjourned to meet at 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Elder A. Dorman.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder W. J. Lee.

Appointed correspondents to the following Associations:

To Sulphur Springs Association—Elders P. R. Tennyson, P. J. Ellis, H. W. Watson and Brethren W. D. Walker, W. M. Chamblee and J. L. Lang.

To Mount Carmel Association—Elders G. B. Wade, J. Y. Bain, J. A. Oden and Brother T. A. Casey.

To Canaan Association, Friday before the second Sabbath in October, 1882—Elder P. J. Ellis and Brethren W. Y. Adams, W. M. Cole and J. D. Hendricks.

To Muscle Shoals Association, Friday before the first Sabbath in October, 1882—Elders P. M. Musgrove, P. R. Tennyson and Brother W. Y. Adams.

To Cherokee Association—Elders A. Dorman, James Fields and Brethren James Lang, J. S. Breasseal, J. H. Campbell, A. F. Whitley and J. W. Winn.

To Cahaba Valley Association, Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1882, Ashville—Elders G. B. Wade, P. J. Ellis, A. Dorman, P. M. Musgrove and Brethren J. S. Breasseal, A. F. Whitley, W. M. Cole, J. W. Crumbly, W. J. Walker and W. Y. Adams.

To Baptist State Convention, Wednesday before the third Sabbath in July, 1882—Elders G. B. Wade, James Fields, A. Dorman, P. R. Tennyson, H. C. Reed, P. M. Musgrove, H. W. Watson and Brethren J. D. Hendricks, J. H. Campbell, W. M. Walker, David Hyatt, W. B. Brown, Reuben Holmes, C. J. Brown, C. C. Hughes and J. W. Winn.

Visiting ministers invited to seats in the body. James Fields and P. J. Ellis accepted.

Called and corrected the roll

Circular letter read and adopted, and its publication in the minutes ordered.

On motion, made 2 o'clock p. m. a special hour for hearing and discussing the Report on Missions.

Report on Documents read and adopted. (See appendix A.)

On motion, Mount Tabor church was allowed to withdraw the query referred by her to the Association at its last session.

Read and adopted Report on Sabbath Schools. (B.)

Recess for preaching Preaching by Elder J. A. Glenn.

After recess the Association met in the house.

This having been made a special hour for hearing Report on Missions, it was called for, read, and after discussion, adopted. (C)

No State Mission work having been done in our bounds during the past year, parties and churches having made pledges for Mission work, were absolved from the payment of the same by vote of the body.

Finance Report read and adopted. (D.)

Read and adopted Reports on Temperance, (E.), and Education. (F.)

On motion, adjourned to meet at 8:30 o'clock, Monday morning.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Preaching at 9:30 o'clock by Elder J. A. Glenn, from II Cor. 5:19. Missionary Sermon at 11 o'clock, by Elder H. W. Watson, from Mat. 28:18, 19. 2'clock, by Elder A. Dorman. The services were well attended. Took up collection for Foreign Missions—\$10 00.

MONDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Limited speakers to five minutes.

Read and adopted Report on State of Religion. (G.)

Changed time of meeting from Friday before second Sabbath in October of each year, to Saturday before the third Sabbath in August.

Report of Treasurer received and adopted:

JOHN D. HENDRICKS, Treasurer, in account with Warrior River Baptist Association—

DEBIT.

To cash received for minutes from Finance Committee.....	\$32 50
“ “ “ “ Home Missions “ “	1 50
“ “ “ “ Home Missions, Warrior Creek church..	3 00
“ “ “ “ Home Missions, Antioch church.....	10 00
“ “ “ “ O. Lawrence, aged minister.....	11 50
“ “ “ “ Cullman church of M. Vaughn.....	1 00
“ “ “ “ Foreign Missions	10 00
“ “ “ “ Home Missions by brethren.....	14 25
“ pledge “ “ Home Missions by P. M. Musgrove.....	5 00—\$88 75

CREDIT.

By cash paid to W. Y. Adams, Clerk.....	\$32 50
“ “ “ “ O. Lawrence.....	11 50
“ “ “ “ Cullman church.....	1 00—\$45 00

Balance on hand: cash, \$38.75; pledge, \$5.00.....\$43 75

Appointed the following brethren, viz: J. D. Hendricks, W. Y. Adams, E. K. Head, T. K. McDonald and W. M. Cole, to control Mission work in our bounds during the next Associational year, in any way they in their wisdom may elect, and to co-operate with the State Mission Board.

Elected A. Dorman to preach the Introductory Sermon; G. B. Wade the Missionary Sermon; and W. Y. Adams to write the Circular Letter

The messengers representing the various churches were requested to bring the subject of Missions before their respective churches at their next regular meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and report to J. D. Hendricks, Chairman of Executive Committee, at Wooten, Blount County, Alabama, what they will do toward supporting a missionary in our bounds during the year just beginning.

Brother J. D. Hendricks was instructed to forward money for Foreign Missions to Brother Tupper, Richmond, Virginia. — \$10.00.

The following were appointed Trustees of Mulberry College, viz: P. M. Musgrove, Isaac Edwards, J. H. Berrier, E. G. Musgrove, J. M. LeGrand, A. Adams, W. M. Chamblee, John Gamble, W. Y. Adams and J. F. Musgrove.

Resolved, That we recommend the ALABAMA BAPTIST for our people, and KIND WORDS for our Sabbath schools, as papers every way worthy of our patronage.

Resolved, That we return thanks to God for His mercies to us during the past year, and to the brethren and sisters and friends for their hospitality to us while in session at Pine Bluff.

Adjourned to meet with Antioch church, six miles east of Blountsville, Saturday before the third Sabbath in August, 1882.

ELDER H. W. WATSON, Moderator.

W. Y. ADAMS, Clerk.

APPENDICES.

DOCUMENTS.

(A.) We your Committee on Documents would report, that upon an examination of the letters from the churches, we find, that the next session of this body is called for by Antioch, Mount Pleasant and Rock Spring churches; that Antioch wishes the time of meeting of the Association, changed to Saturday before third Sabbath in August; that the church at Mount Tabor wishes to withdraw the query sent by her to this body in 1880; that Macedonia asks to have the Union of second District fixed for next year, for Friday before second Sabbath in August.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. ELLISON, Chairman.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

(B.) Your Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report, that from the reading of the letters from the churches, but little is being done in this grand and glorious work. We regret that our people are so lost to an enterprise of such vast magnitude.

Experience has demonstrated the fact that wherever our denomination has fostered this enterprise, it has grown in favor and influence. Do we believe this? If we do let us govern ourselves accordingly. We most respectfully urge our people, one and all, to go to work in this direction, and never cease, until a Sabbath School is established in each church, where old and young can meet together to study God's word.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. MUSGROVE, Chairman.

MISSIONS.

(C.) Your Committee on Missions beg leave to report, that from all the sources of information to which we have had access, there seems to be a greater degree of zeal manifested than in any former period in the history of missions.

The Foreign fields are ripening for the harvest, and our domestic interests are engaging the prayers and benefactions of our almost entirely united brotherhood. While we are not doing all that we ought to do, we hope that our Association will awake from her state of lethargy on this subject and more will be done in the future than in the past for the spread of the gospel in the destitute parts.

Our Home and Foreign Mission Boards are asking for aid in Missions and Colportage. Brethren, will we not give as the Lord has prospered us, and pray that we may have the spirit of good will toward all men, as we had in the hour of our conversion? While 815,000,000 of the human race are without the gospel, let us not hold our peace, but each and every one, pray and work for the Master, that much good may be accomplished, ere we meet again in an associational capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

A. DORMAN, Chairman.

FINANCE. (D.)

First District.

Mount Tabor.....	\$ 1 95	Gum Spring.....	\$
White Plains	2 00	Flint Creek.....	
Cullman.....	50	Antioch.....	1 00
Roswell Creek.....	1 20	Warrior Creek.....	1 00
Blountsville.....		Pine Grove.....	75
Austin Creek.....	1 40	Hopewell.....	50

Second District.

Rock Spring.....	\$ 1 80	Mount Pleasant.....	\$ 1 00
Macedonia.....	2 00	Walnut Grove.....	1 65
Mount High.....	1 75	Mount Carmel.....	1 50
Clear Spring.....	1 05	Mount Vernon.....	
Blue Spring.....		Pine Bluff.....	1 75
Harmony.....	2 00	Pleasant Grove.....	60
Bristoe's Creek.....	1 85	Bethel.....	70
Friendship.....	2 05		
Liberty.....	2 50	Total amount.....	\$32 50

In addition to the above, we have received for Home Missions from Mount High \$1.50, from brethren for O. Lawrence \$11.50. All of which has been duly paid over to your Treasurer. Respectfully submitted,

JAMES P. SMITH Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.

(E.) We, your Committee on Temperance, are glad to report that, from the information in our possession, the cause of Temperance is gaining ground in the churches. We entreat our brethren to forward on the cause by every means attainable, especially by abstaining from spirituous liquors as a beverage themselves, and by teaching their children the principles of Temperance.

We would most respectfully urge our churches to enforce rigid discipline against all members, who are addicted to intemperance. We believe the church of Christ to be the greatest power to which the advocates of Temperance can look; indeed, we believe the church to be the parent of Temperance. And shall the child not look to the parent for support?

May God lead us to the full realization of the great responsibility resting upon us, as instruments in His hands for leading the world to a higher plain of life.

Therefore, Resolved, that we withdraw fellowship from any church that holds in fellowship any person who makes, sells or gives away ardent spirits as a beverage.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. CAMPBELL, Chairman.

EDUCATION.

(F.) We, your Committee on Education, do not think we can urge the necessity of an educated ministry too highly, from the fact, that we look to it as a guide, and expect it to combat with the enemies of our religion. We may expect innovations of a hurtful character to be made in our churches, and we already see the machination of the enemy of souls at work in our midst; the first must be cut off, the last defeated. We must fight the enemy with his own weapon—a cultivated intellect; and since we have the sword of the spirit, the word of God, we will be doubly armed, and the fore must fall before us, helpless, or scatter like chaff before the wind. We refer our young ministers to the advice given by Paul to Timothy.

The Bible is the best book on theology the minister can study. A thorough acquaintance with language, a knowledge of history, both ancient and modern, are requisite to give comprehensiveness to the mind; therefore,

Resolved, that this Association recommend a liberal education to all our young ministers of the gospel, and that such steps be taken as will best promote this end.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. KIMBROUGH, Chairman.

STATE OF RELIGION.

(G.) Your Committee on State of Religion beg leave to report, that some of our churches have reported precious revivals, while others complain of coldness. Upon the whole we think that the State of Religion in our Association is by no means what it ought to be; and in order to raise the standard of christianity in our midst, we would recommend that our ministers preach more frequently upon experimental religion and practical Godliness, that at every church meeting, both minister and church preach and work as though the destiny of souls depended upon the present effort.

We further recommend, that in special protracted efforts by the church for the conversion of sinners, that an hour in each day be set apart and the anxious be invited to meet with the church and ministers for instruction and prayer, where each one can be instructed and prayed for. In this way "confusion and much bodily exercise which profiteth but little" will be avoided and true piety promoted.

Sabbath Schools should be organized in every church, and every Scriptural means should be used to show that the church of Christ is not of this world, but that it is divine, that each member is like Christ. Then the time will come when Zion "in purity the world shall behold."

Respectfully submitted,

P. M. MUSGROVE, Chairman.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN—We address you this year on systematic giving, and hope that you will not throw these lines away as so much trash, for it is reasonably to be expected that they are the last that will ever fall from our pen to you, yet we love the Warrior River Baptist Association, and continually pray for prosperity in her bounds; but other fields will hereafter claim our labor and efforts.

That it is the duty of every child of God to give something to advance the cause of Christ on earth, we hope no one has the hardihood to deny in this age of Gospel light; but we often have the phrase repeated, "charity begins at home," as if it were the inspired word of God; but it is not there; on the contrary, Christ, while on earth, commended the poor widow who gave her whole living into the treasury of God.

We have at this writing the minutes of your last session lying before us, and we find the total footing of the membership at that time to be one thousand one hundred and fifty-one. Now, what ought this number of Baptists in one body to do in the spread of the Gospel to regions beyond? Let us make a calculation on the basis of only one cent per week to the member—and who cannot pay that amount, especially when you spend foolishly three or four times that amount in something that does you no good, but harm? 1,151 multiplied by 52, the number of weeks in the year—the amount of five hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty-two cents—enough to keep a missionary in the destitute parts of the Association and to help send the Gospel to other regions that are perishing for the "bread of life." Do you say these are the vagaries of a wild brain? Be it so; but God will surely require of you a strict account of your stewardship, and then you will wish, but in vain, that you had been more wise in the disbursements of His store. While many of you could give four or five times the amount named without inconvenience to yourselves or families, there are none but could give that amount by just determining that it should be done.

Brethren, when we look and see what Christ has done for us and how little we are doing for him, it ought to make us hide our heads in very shame.

The religion of the Bible is a religion of sacrifice; and unless we are willing to sacrifice some of our lustful wishes, well may we doubt our very profession of Christ. He sacrificed ALL, that we might be made the heirs of God—and shall we make no sacrifice for Him? I cannot accept any other hypothesis than that of absolute indifference to the calls of the Gospel, as the cause why there is not a missionary in the destitute and waste places within the bounds of Warrior River Association. And why is it you are not doing something for other regions? This paper does not discuss the subject of pastoral support, for that is not giving, but a case of debt, as much so as the debt to your blacksmith, doctor, merchant or teacher, and brethren ought to be taught the truth on this point by the pastors. The Bible plan of giving is, let every one lay by in store on the first day of the week as God has prospered him. Let this rule be carried out and then we shall see the treasury of the Lord full and overflowing. Brethren and sisters, let each one come up to the Lord's house every first day with his or her cent, and more if the Lord hath given more, and do our part in pushing on the car of salvation, until earth's remotest nations shall be blest with the news of salvation, and till no one of the inhabitants of earth can say, "no one has ever told me before." Amen.

Yours in Gospel bonds,

V. H. DEAN.

MINISTERS.
ORDAINED.

NAMES.	POST-OFFICE.	COUNTY.	STATE.
James Fields.....	Blountsville.....	Blount.....	Alabama.
J. M. Stewart.....	Summit.....	Blount.....	"
W. C. Reed.....	Summit.....	Blount.....	"
P. R. Tennyson.....	Summit.....	Blount.....	"
J. T. Evans.....	Sidney.....	Marshall.....	"
P. M. Musgrove.....	Cullman.....	Cullman.....	"
P. J. Ellis.....	Little Warrior.....	Blount.....	"
G. B. Wade.....	Walnut Grove.....	Etowah.....	"
J. Y. Bain.....	Guntersville.....	Marshall.....	"
A. Dorman.....	Balm.....	Blount.....	"
Wm. Teague.....	Summit.....	Blount.....	"
W. T. Goss.....	Wynnville.....	Blount.....	"
W. L. Casey.....	Sidney.....	Marshall.....	"
J. Oden.....	Sidney.....	Marshall.....	"

LICENTIATES.

John Cox.....	Blount Springs.....	Blount.....	"
Em. Bowerman.....	Blountsville.....	Blount.....	"
J. A. Oden.....	Sidney.....	Marshall.....	"
J. M. Casey.....	Sidney.....	Marshall.....	"
J. C. Buckner.....	Ogee.....	Blount.....	"
H. H. Boyd.....	Wynnville.....	Blount.....	"
M. Ray.....	Wynnville.....	Blount.....	"

(FORM OF CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION)

STATE OF ALABAMA, } THE BAPTIST CHURCH AT.....
.....COUNTY. }to the
Warrior River Association to meet with the.....
Church,.....August.....18...., sendeth Christian
salutation.

We send as delegates to your body, Brethren.....
.....

We have contributed the following amounts during the Associational year:

State Missions, \$.....	Ministerial Education, \$.....
Foreign Missions,
Domestic Missions,	For Minutes,

Pastor.....	S. S. Teachers.....
Sabbath Meetings.....	S. S. Scholars.....

STATISTICS.

Baptized.....	Excluded.....
Received by Letter.....	Dead.....
Restored.....
Dismissed.....	Total.....

REMARKS.

.....
.....
Done in Conference.....
.....

..... Church Clerk. Moderator.

The Clerks of the churches are urgently requested to make use of the above form in writing their letters, in order that the work of our churches may be better understood and more readily compiled.—CLERK OF ASSOCIATION.

There they come the poor
A poor poor little one and
leaved that girl
A poor little one
left of poor
to the poor
poor little

